Graduate Council Minutes

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

3-4 p.m., Peace Garden Room

Attending: Asif Arshid, Ben Balas, Brad Benton, Derek Lehmberg, Todd Lewis, Deying Li, Rhonda Magel, John McEvoy, Jenni Momsen, Brandy Randall, Molly Secor-Turner, Melissa Selders-Ortez, Verena Theile, Claudia Tomany

Absent: Eakalak Khan, Meredith Schroeder, Craig Stockwell

**Minutes**

Verena Thiele made a motion to approve the May 2, 2017 minutes. John McEvoy provided the second. Approved.

**Updates**

*Graduate College Leadership Changes*

Melissa Selders-Ortez will oversee academic support team. Heather Schneider supervise student workers. Lisa Hauck is the assistant dean for admission and international coordinator.

The Graduate Center for Writers has merged with the undergraduate center. The new writing center space is not yet complete. As such the team is using this time to create a strategic plan including grant writing for the center, how to deliver support more broadly, etc. Classes and group sessions are currently taking place until individual consultations can resume.

*University Strategic Plan*

Provost Ingram has revised the strategic plan to reflect the current budget situation and to include initiatives already in progress. Focus is not on growing graduate enrollment, but on the output of graduates, specifically at the doctoral level. The Provost is also interested in developing more professional master’s degree programs, professional development for graduate students and graduate assistant working conditions.

**Business**

*Committee Membership*

Dean Tomany reviewed the current committees and asked members to sign up for 1-2 committees of interest. In additional to the standing committees, an ad hoc strategic enrollment committee is being formed.

*Graduate School Representative*

Dean Tomany presented information regarding the Graduate School Representative required for doctoral committees. The function of the GSR is to ensure students/committee members are adhering to NDSU/Graduate School policies and that all participants are treated fairly.

The dean will bring a revised Plan of Study and Report of Final Exam to the next meeting for review.

*Dismissal Policy*

Current policy states students dismissed from the Graduate School can reapply in one year. However, if a student is in good academic standing and wants to apply to another program for which they are suited, should the student be allowed to apply to that program sooner? Consensus of the Council is let the current policy stand and allow the graduate dean to make an occasional exception on a case-by-case basis.